

JOURNAL

OF THE

New York Entomological Society.

EDITED BY HARRISON G. DYAR.

Publishes articles relating to any class of the subkingdom Arthropoda, subject to the acceptance of the Publication Committee. Original communications in this field are solicited.

EDITORIAL.

The article which comprises the present issue was first published as author's separates on March 14, 1906. The new species described in it should be credited with that date. It is, perhaps, advisable to mention that this paper was not "distributed by the Government" as has been erroneously stated in print (*Ent. News*, XVII, 181, 1906).

We note the formation of the "Entomological Society of America," having been formed at the Philadelphia meeting of the Entomological Club of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This appears to be a new society, not a new name for the Entomological Club. We fail to see any necessity for this organization, or any special purpose in its formation. No place of meeting is mentioned, and it must either meet in some later selected place, in which case it will only uselessly compete with the local society there, or meet with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to uselessly compete with the Entomological Club. No mention of a publication appears with the prospectus, and we heartily hope none will be attempted. None of the present entomological societies are able to pay for their publications out of their subscriptions, except "Entomological News," so that a reduction in the number of publishing societies would seem to be in order, rather than an increase. The American entomologist is a rather rare species, and the number of

journals he has to purchase, to keep up to date, is already too great. Unless the Entomological Society of America can absorb one or more of the existing societies, we think its formation not only useless, but ill-advised.

A recent article by Mr. Witmer Stone (*Science*, n. s., xxiv, 560, 1906), brings forward again the question of determining the types of genera by the first species method. The article favors the method and is in accordance with our own views. We hope that the International Zoölogical Congress will consider this question at its meeting next summer and, if possible, adopt the principle. A question of nomenclature, which we have not seen discussed, and which our codes do not cover, is the matter of the identification of type species. This is equally pertinent by the elimination method of fixing types or any other method. If (by any method) a type is found for a genus, the question arises as to what that species was. The author may have mentioned an old species. Is the type of the genus the old species mentioned, or is it the species the author had before him under that name, perhaps a very different species, misidentified? There ought to be a rule to solve such cases.

BOOK NOTICE.

Entomology, with Special Reference to its Biological and Economic Aspects. By JUSTUS WATSON FOLSOM, Sc.D. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1906.

This book makes a distinct departure from our usual text-books on entomology, in that classification and taxonomy are reduced to a minimum, their place being taken by a general account of the structure and histology of insects, with their habits, adaptations, and the many interrelations that the subject suggests. It is interesting reading to even advanced students and a mine of information to the beginner. We commend the work heartily. It should be read in conjunction with some other work dealing more fully with classification.